

CLASH THREATENS IN RANKS OF LABOR

Leaders Are Beginning to Speculate on What Will Happen After War.

CONDITIONS ARE CHANGED

Unskilled Workmen and Women Have Taken High Place in Industries.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] LONDON, April 8.—Intelligent British labor leaders are beginning to speculate on the prospects of labor after the war.

Here, as everywhere else, the great majority of workers are unskilled and partly unorganized. During the war these unskilled workers have flowed into shops and factories, and after the war, when the skilled workmen who offered their services to their country, return to their old jobs, the unskilled masses will wipe out and crush all rules and regulations of the labor unions.

The unskilled worker is master of the situation, and the wages he is now receiving prove it. Can any one imagine that, after the war, he will allow himself to be pushed back into his old miserable position? And, even should he be weak enough to do so, who believes that the employers, seeing a chance to get cheaper labor, would let this happen?

Will not this mean a clash between skilled and unskilled labor, which must bring forth domestic discontent and strife?

Out of the chaos of the world war arises socialism. Within a very short space of time England has been forced to undertake great national enterprises, necessitating government control of nearly 5,000 factories and workshops, with nearly 2,000,000 workers. Maximum prices have been fixed on various articles of food, like sugar and flour. In Germany the state has taken over the distribution of bread, potatoes and butter, and has organized huge national establishments managed by women, and based on the principle that the manufacturer directed to the consumer.

MILLERAND HAS APPEARED TO WOMEN FOR ASSISTANCE

In France, too, Millerand has appeared to the women for assistance, and the workers are everywhere under state control, and subject to military law in case they refuse to work. The other belligerent countries have followed this example, and all these things have completely revolutionized the position of all the workers in Europe.

Here in Great Britain a dramatist of organization in the form of national registration has enlisted the entire people.

What are to be the consequences to the workers of all these things?

The first consequence undoubtedly will be that it will prove almost impossible everywhere to do away with the enormous number of national factories and workshops. In other words, we shall see a new bureaucratic era for the workers, for a bureaucracy may be democratic as well as capitalist.

If the people should not prove strong enough after the war to take over and run the new national machinery of production, they will be evaluated for one, perhaps for two generations. The iron-bound military law, the registration of every adult worker, the very habit of working under a national bureaucracy—and habit is one of the strongest forces in the lives of the English people, who are conservative to a degree—will perhaps paralyze the people and will their desire for co-operation, but co-operation will then come, nevertheless, under the guidance of a sergeant.

All the labor organizations and trade-unions of Europe have now become so completely amalgamated with the military organizations of the state that they have lost their individuality and identity completely.

The question of the relation between the cost of living and wages is one of the many paradoxes of the war. Because of the abnormal circumstances and the great shortage of labor, the workers have become accustomed to very high wages. Unskilled workers are making three times as much as they ever did before. Many munition workers in Birmingham, for instance, are making \$75 a week. This fact alone has revolutionized the ideas of the European worker, who will never again be satisfied to return to his old wages of from \$5 to \$12.50 a week, and the question is then, Will the employer be able to force him to do so?

On the other side, war has forced up the prices of the necessities of living, and social economists in all countries predict a further increase. Is there any hope for the European worker that his wages will keep step with the increased cost of living?

Even before the war the English statistician, Sidney Webb, showed that the workers of Europe have been forced to reduce their standard of living because wages remained comparatively stationary, while the prices of food went up from 15 to 40 per cent. What will happen then after the war, in the course of which the increase has reached in many cases fully 130 per cent?

To this comes the greatest of all labor problems engendered by the war—the problem of what to do with the female war workers. As the members of the labor unions volunteered for military service or were conscripted into the trenches, an army of women numbering millions filled their places, and now British labor leaders fear they will be helpless against this invasion unless women are forbidden by law to do anything which was formerly looked upon as a man's work.

Two results of this invasion of women seem inevitable after the war. In the first place, the standard of living (Continued on Eighth Page.)

OFFICERS AND MEN ADORE THIS HERO

General Petain Known as Most Resourceful Man in French Army.

HIS ADVANCE IS RAPID

After "Father" Joffre, He Perhaps Stands Highest in Love of Nation.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] PARIS, April 8.—It has been the good fortune of France during this war to have produced, like the United States during the Civil War, the great men needed to insure her final victory.

It was the good fortune of her present government that from the very beginning it has been able to recognize greatness even in obscurity and has never feared to cut asunder red tape or to push aside all hidebound rules of military seniority in order to promote men of merit and ability.

Merit in an officer, as a matter of fact, has been the only thing which has counted for anything in this war. Everywhere the right man has been put in the right place, and it is this fact which more than anything else has inspired the French soldier to the heroism he has shown.

SECRET OF WONDERFUL CONFIDENCE OF PEOPLE

An army like the French, in which every single soldier has absolute confidence in his leaders, which is being supplied with everything it needs in the most effective and systematic manner, and which is besides inspired by the loftiest patriotism, is invincible, and in the knowledge of this lies the secret of the wonderful confidence of the entire French people.

The general who perhaps after "Father" Joffre stands highest in the opinion of his countrymen is Petain, the defender of Verdun. A high official in the War Department, whose work has brought him in close touch with General Petain, gave the following impression of him:

"What strikes you the very minute you meet General Petain the first time, is that he is a young man in the fullest sense of the word. His appearance bears testimony that he has always kept his body in perfect training with the care of a professional athlete. He is straight, and his eyes as well as his every movement speak of an indomitable fund of energy and quick resolve. He reaches his every decision, even the most important, in a moment, and he has never failed to choose the right one. He has all the qualities that go to make up an ideal military leader, and though a stern disciplinarian, he is adored by his officers and men alike.

"A colonel at the outbreak of the war, he was almost immediately given the command of a brigade, and it is certainly not through office work that he has won the stars he now wears on his sleeves. In August, 1914, he personally led a charge at Dinant, running far ahead of his regiment and inspiring the men to the most reckless bravery.

"Promoted to be general of a division, we see him again on May 9, 1915, in command of the Thirty-third Army Corps, piercing the German lines. He did so personally, taking his men into battle in less than one hour, and he never again was as much as a scratch, though he was constantly in the thick of the fight with his riding crop in one hand and his revolver in the other. After this glorious feat he was given command of the Second French army.

"In September last year he added new laurels to his wreath of fame, for on the 25th of that month he repeated what he had done in Artois, and broke the German front on a line fifteen miles long, drove them back four miles and took 25,000 prisoners.

ASKED TO TAKE CHARGE

"After the offensive in Champagne General Petain was asked by the commander-in-chief to take charge of the training of the new troops which are to take part in the coming great offensive of the allied forces in the west, and he devoted all his energy to this task until he was called to the post of honor at Verdun."

A high army officer who is a close personal friend of General Petain said a few days ago:

"General Petain is one of the most quick-witted and most level-headed men I ever met. Nothing ever disturbs his calm, and his decisions seem to flash through his brain like divine inspirations. He never hesitates, he is never in doubt, he is the most resourceful man in our army.

"I have a right to say these things, for I have known him since we were both little boys. He has no connections in the Chamber of Deputies, and cares nothing for politics. He is a soldier through and through, and a little too frank in his speech. He believes it to be the duty of a commander to set an example to his men, and is always ready to expose himself to danger too recklessly. He is the most modest of men, and you have to look closely at him to discover that he is a general and not a private.

"Right at the beginning of the war he saw that this was a war of factories, and he has done more than any other officer in active service to insure an ample supply of munitions."

PELLAGRA TAKES BIG TOLL

Eight Thousand Deaths in 1915 Due to Disease Which Can Be Prevented by Cheap and Simple Diet.

WASHINGTON, April 8.—Pellagra caused 8,000 deaths in the United States in 1915. Public Health Service reports show. Its development can be effectively prevented by a cheap and simple diet the health service experts recommend.

ALL MUST PREPARE FOR HIGHER TAXES

They Are Bound to Come, as England's Expenses Are Mounting.

NONE WILL ESCAPE PAYMENT

Rich Clamor for Taxes on Poor, and Poor Want Rich to Pay.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] LONDON, April 8.—Twice during the last month or so the British have been reminded by Premier Asquith that they must prepare for even higher taxes than those under which they already are sighing. If the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not discover the right way to increase the taxes, it will certainly not be from lack of advice.

The rich are calling loudly for taxes on the working classes, who are all supposed to be wallowing in luxury, and who are certainly making higher wages than they dreamed of two years ago.

The workers, on the other side, are demanding the conservation of wealth. The free traders are all for more income tax, while the tariff reformers want to put a duty on imports. The married man wants to tax the bachelor, the man who has to walk is crying for a tax on motor cars, the Puritan wants amusements taxed, the teetotaler cries out for higher taxes on beer and spirits, and the alcoholist swears that it is cocoa which ought to be taxed. All agree, however, that higher taxes are a necessity.

As a matter of fact, however, as soon as the new taxes shall have been imposed they will be paid without much grumbling. The country knows that war expenditures are nearly \$25,000,000 a day.

Still, I have not heard a single protest against the size of this enormous amount, though criticism of the government's lack of system and organization, which costs the country many millions a year, are frequent enough.

CONSTANTLY PREACHING NEED OF ECONOMY

The government, indeed, is constantly preaching the need of economy, but it utterly fails to practice what it preaches. That the members of the cabinet still find it proper to accept their high salaries is, of course, a minor matter, but examples of the most foolish and unnecessary waste of public money are plentiful enough.

Some weeks ago there was a shortage of meat for the French and British troops in France, and the transportation department ordered one of the Nelson line-boats to take on board 3,000 tons.

The directors of the Nelson Line pointed out that the particular vessel selected by the authorities was not fit for this kind of service, and that the necessary changes would cost a very large amount of money and take considerable time. They, therefore, suggested that a sister ship, which had already been refitted for this kind of work, and which was at the moment lying in the port of London with a cargo of 3,000 tons of meat on board, be substituted, the more so as it was ready to leave at a moment's notice.

The authorities, who seem to look at any suggestion as an insult, absolutely refused to listen to it, and gave orders that the task of refitting the liner they had selected themselves be taken in hand immediately and rushed through, night and day, regardless of cost.

The directors of the line shook their heads, but knew better than to say anything more, and the vessel was eventually made ready, whereupon the identical cargo of meat which had been lying in the hold of the sister ship during all this time was placed on board the refitted liner and sent to France.

Incidents like this partially explain why shipowners are making money and why there is a growing shortage of tonnage.

GALICIA HEAVY SUFFERER

Society of Austrian Architects Estimates That Total Damage Amounts to \$100,000,000.

VIENNA, April 8.—The total damage caused by the war to property in the Province of Galicia is estimated at \$100,000,000 in a report prepared by the Society of Austrian Architects, dealing with plans for the rebuilding of the destroyed towns and villages in Galicia.

The report states that nearly 100,000 of the inhabitants of the province have fled to Russia, while 60,000 families still remaining behind are homeless. Of 650 villages in the war area, 271 are reported more than half destroyed. In the others there is generally some war damage, but the proportion varies considerably.

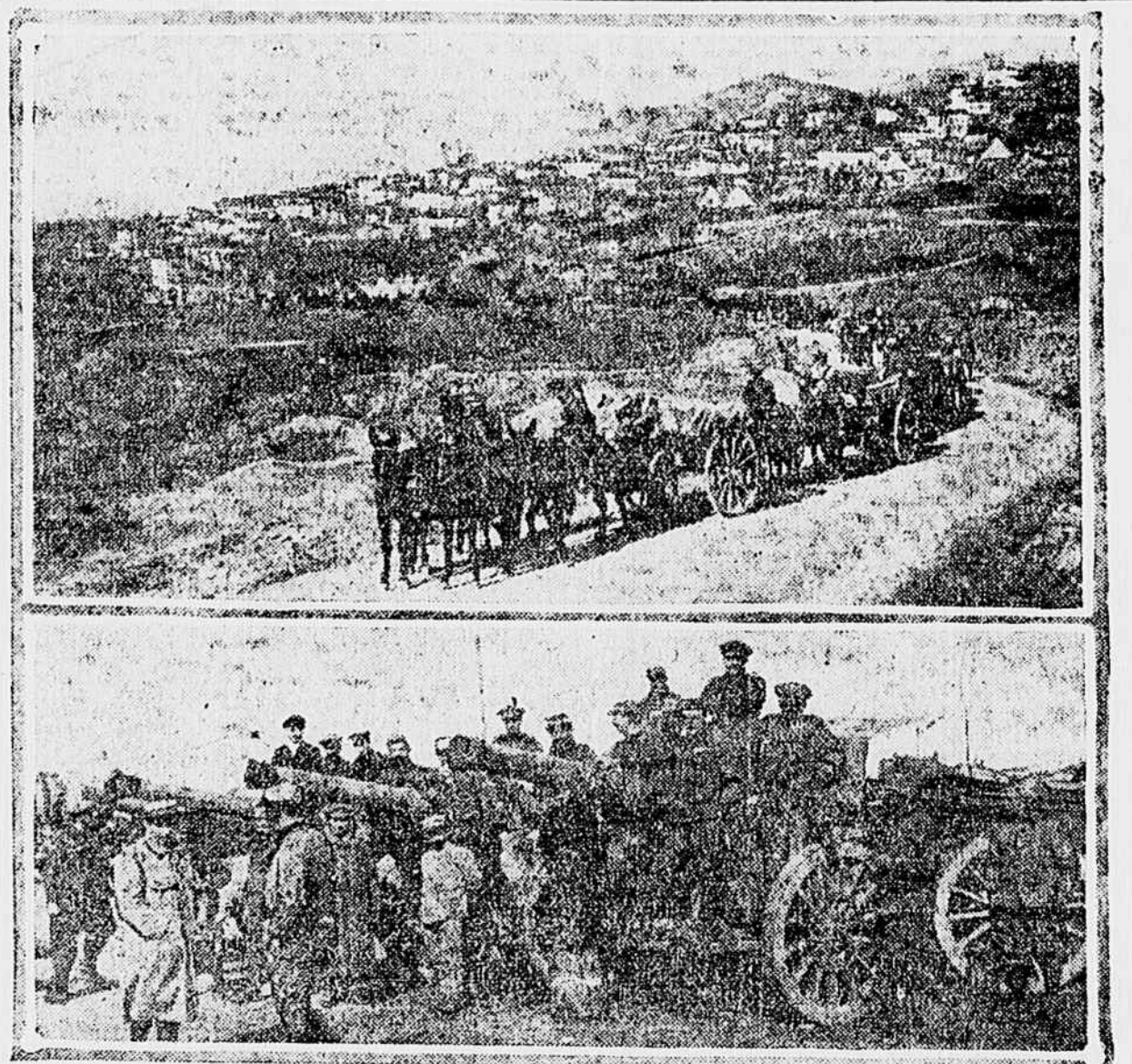
Altogether it is estimated that 175,000 business premises, private houses and farm buildings have been completely destroyed, to which number must be added about 25,000 public buildings. Assuming that the cost of reconstructing the buildings will average \$1,500, the total cost of this single item in the work of reconstruction after the war will be about \$250,000,000.

PEACE MEETINGS ABANDONED

Promoters Decline They Become Marked by Scenes of Too Much Disorder.

LONDON, April 8.—Peace meetings, which became a regular thing at the daily lunch hour at the Friends' Meeting House, the chief gathering place of the Quakers here ever since the outbreak of the war, have been abandoned, the promoters declaring they became marked by scenes of too much disorder.

Picturesque Scenes Near Saloniki, Held by Allies



(Above) An allied military mule train moving past beautiful Macedonian town on the hillside. (Below) A French battery of field artillery in Saloniki.

YPRES PERFECT PICTURE OF TRAGIC DESOLATION

Once Bustling Town Now in Ruins, and Silence Is That of Grave.

OUTSIDE GUNS ARE CRASHING

Officer of British Flying Corps Writes His Impressions of Destruction Wrought by War—Tells Incidents of Fighting by Airplane.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] LONDON, April 8.—An officer attached to the British flying corps says in a letter home:

"We have just lost a very gallant and very dear member of our mess, and his last effort makes us all proud to think he was one of us."

"He is another victim of most astonishing luck, not by any means of enemy supremacy in the air. He was flying the day before yesterday, and, of course, the usual concourse of Huns were following at long range—opening fire occasionally with a few rounds—but we were taking no notice of them."

"We had almost got back when a lucky shot got the old chap in the thigh. All the same, he plunged on, and landed his machine just this side of Ypres. His observer, helped by some gunners, got him out and took him to a farm, where they bound him up and sent him down on an ambulance to a dressing station. But the main artery had been cut and the old chap died from loss of blood an hour afterwards."

"It was a magnificent effort bringing the machine over the lines and landing it, thereby saving his observer, when he was half-fainting the whole time through loss of blood. I might mention that the bullet which got him was the only one that even hit the machine at all."

"I had to tow a pilot out to where the machine landed for him to bring it back, and took the opportunity of nosing round near the firing line again. It was like old times, and gave an extraordinary feeling of elation to walk up to batteries in action, hearing the corrections yelled out—then a moment's silence while the guns were reloaded, then an awful crash as the order 'Fire' was spat out—all devilish interesting."

"Then I just had to look in at Ypres again. As a matter of fact it is the first time I have walked through it, and in daylight, too. I cannot possibly describe my feelings when I got right into the town. I would have given ten years of my life to have been able to sit down and put them on paper. But that I shall never be able to do. I expected the awful scene of ruin, having seen it so often from the air; I expected the shell holes—the houses a pile of bricks and mortar, the poor old Cloth Hall a mass of yellow dust."

"But what I had no conception of was the silence. Last time I came through it there was movement in plenty—transport coming in and out, and occasional big shells crashing into it. That was war, and the ruin and destruction were more easy to realize; it did not strike you so much, as it was in harmony with the noise and bustle. But now you walk in on a calm day when there is nothing doing and the silence is like the grave. Outside quite close the guns crash away and the shells go screaming and swishing overhead, but inside the old city everything is still as death; not a word to be seen, not a sound; it is the most perfect picture of tragic desolation you could conceive."

SOLDIERS MAY BECOME HOMELESS WANDERERS

What to Do With Fighting Men When War Is Over May Prove Troublesome Problem.

WORKSHOPS ARE ABANDONED

Thousands of Men Never Again Will Be Content to Coop Themselves Up in Shops or Office, and Many Will Turn Tramps.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] BERLIN, April 8.—Experience has proved that the number of tramps largely increases after every war. It is feared that the number of homeless wanderers will become greater after the present world conflict than ever before in history. Thousands of young men who formerly knew nothing but toil have become used to the free, exciting life at the front, and will not relish being cooped up again in factories and offices.

The German government is already paying serious attention to this after-war problem, and may direct the elements that have become shiftless and restless to Mesopotamia and to the African colonies, if the allies can be forced to give them up again.

That the tramp question really may become serious when the troops return from the different theaters of war is shown by the letter of a well-known soldier, who writes to the Frankfurter Zeitung:

"Gigantic and multicolored problems will have to be solved when peace returns. One of them deserves particular attention of the government. What is to be done with the many thousands of laborers, mechanics, clerks, etc., who during the war have lost all taste for quiet, peaceful work?"

"These men cannot be forced into the workshops and offices again. The 'wanderlust' will become an epidemic and a state of serious lawlessness is to be feared if the authorities do not act in time."

"I personally know many soldiers who openly declare that they will not become industrial slaves again. They feel themselves free men now, and intend to remain free. The best thing would be to send these fellows to Asiatic Turkey, and to the colonies that may remain in German possession. If this is not done they will surely become troublesome."

"Until the men who do not wish to return to their former vocations can be directed to some far-off land where their lust for adventure may be gratified, they should be permitted to live in the camps now used for the war prisoners at the expense of the government. They have richly deserved this, and the same privilege should also be granted to men who are willing to work again, but may not be able to find employment at once."

TAX ON THEATER TICKETS

Proposed Law in French Chamber of Deputies Would Make It Equal to Price of Admission.

PARIS, April 8.—A tax equal to the price of admission on all theater tickets is proposed by a law introduced in the Chamber of Deputies. This proposed tax is independent of the present tax imposed for the benefit of charities, and it is proposed that it be levied in the form of stamps that the directors of theaters will be required to paste upon all tickets of admission. Nothing in the way of distraction or amusement to which admission is charged is exempted in this law, excepting when the entire receipts are donated to charitable enterprises.

TWENTY THOUSAND MEN WRESTLE FOR CHARMS

Unclothed, and by Light of Frosty Moon, They Struggle for Little Wooden Talismans.

150,000 PEOPLE AT FESTIVAL

One Hundred and Five Trains Carry Great Crowds to Saidajih to Witness Monster Carnival—Money and Fame for Winners.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] TOKYO, April 8.—In the town of Saidajih 20,000 naked men recently wrestled under a frosty moon for possession of two wooden charms supposed to bring their possessors good luck for the ensuing year.

The remarkable wrestling match took place in the compound of a famous temple of the goddess Kwanon, one hundred and five trains rolled into Saidajih over the light railroad, bearing 150,000 people to participate in the festival.

The festival began in the evening, and by 5 o'clock it was computed there were 5,000 naked men waiting to try their luck. They arrived in groups of 100 or more, and each had to purify himself by plunging in the waters of the River Yoshi before entering the temple grounds.

The men pushed and jostled vigorously for places, shouting in rhythm the traditional call of "Wasasho, wasasho," always heard at temple festivals. By 11 o'clock the number had increased to 15,000, including some champion wrestlers. The people threw buckets of cold water over them and steam rose in clouds. In the struggle they clambered on each other's shoulders until the center of the courtyard looked like a hill of flesh.

At 2 A. M. the third beat of the drum gave the signal and the chief priest and twenty assistants offered the last prayers to the goddess. At twenty minutes past two the two wooden charms were thrown among the crowd. Then the mass of naked men swayed and rolled about in the temple courtyard in the effort to seize the charms. They can be taken by one from another, but the rule is that a man who manages to place the charm under a certain measure is entitled to keep it.

After long and fierce contention, Kumidori Nakada and Tofuro Fujiwara got the charms. The chief priest, according to custom, went to the place in a palanquin to inspect them and certify them genuine, and by 3:30 A. M. the ceremony was over.

A winner of the charm receives from the temple twenty bags of rice and merchants of Kobe and Osaka buy the charms at large sums in order to get good luck.

TO STOP FALSE REPORTS

Chinese Government Issues Mandate Authorizing Punishment of Persons Who Circulate Rumors.

PEKING, April 8.—False news reports have been circulating throughout China so persistently that the government has finally issued a mandate on the subject, authorizing severe punishment to persons instrumental in circulating such reports. Startling rumors have been published concerning palace plots and the assassination of prominent government officials. Reports have also been given wide currency which affected the leading banks of China seriously.

Many of these misleading reports have appeared in newspapers printed by Japanese in the leading Chinese centers, and consequently the press of China is blaming Japanese editors for much of the press campaigns so unfavorable to Yuan Shi Kai and his associates.

ALLIES PREPARING FOR GREAT BLOW

Expected to Throw Forces Into Turkish Empire to Assist Anglo-Russian Offensive.

HARD PROBLEM FOR GERMANS

Reason for Offers of Separate Peace Made by Turkey and Refused by Russia.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.] LONDON, April 8.—No one doubts here that the allies will strike a great blow in the Near East this spring. Just where it will be is probably known to less than a dozen persons, but the great forces at Saloniki and the still larger forces in Egypt are not needed on the western front, and are bound to be thrown into the Turkish campaign in such a way as to assist the joint Anglo-Russian offensive in Asia Minor.

With the Russians plowing steadily westward, along the Black Sea coast, and through the mountains of Armenia, the leaders of the allies can view with equanimity Turkish re-enforcements to the Mesopotamia Valley army, which holds General Townshend's army besieged in Kut of Amara, and with the assistance of the floods, has so far checked the British relieving army a few miles down the Tigris.

No one here worries about the situation in the Valley of the Tigris. In the first place, there is no reason to doubt that new forces sent from India are on their way in sufficient quantity to change the fortunes of war here. In the second, the Turks would be hardly to send a great mass of men beyond Bagdad with the Russians threatening their rear and gradually eating away the territory from which Constantinople must draw recruits, supplies and tax money.

Difficulties of transportation through the mountains will prevent the Turks from checking the Russian advance for some time. It is, therefore, expected here that the German officers who supply the brains for the Turkish campaign in Asia Minor will take up some defensive line, probably to the west of a line drawn north from the east end of the Mediterranean, fortify it strongly and make their stand here.

But at this point the knotty problem for the German tacticians arises. The Turks not only have to face attacks by Russians through Armenia from the Black Sea. They are also in danger of the great blow the allies can deliver falling on their flank from many points of the long coast line of Southern Asia Minor. They might have to fight an enemy on three sides simultaneously. It is the consideration of this problem, which undoubtedly prompted the offer of a separate peace Turkey has made in an informal manner to Russia, only to be turned down by Russia.

The Turgic allies cannot afford to send a large force into Asia Minor for another reason still. It would weaken the Turkish-Bulgarian-Teutonic armies now concentrated west of Constantinople. A successful offensive behind, that is, to the west of Constantinople, would cut off and leave helpless and unsupplied all the troops in Asia.

HOW TO MEET THREAT

So Field Marshal von Mackensen, instead of figuring on an invasion of Egypt, must now decide how to meet a threat many hundreds of miles from that point.

The German threat against Egypt was only a bluff, anyway. It was intended to hold great allied forces in Egypt, where they would be far from the main war theaters. But until it was positively proven to be a bluff, the English had to "bite." They had to concentrate hundreds of thousands of men near the Suez Canal, fortify this all-important waterway strongly, and make preparations which would assure their control.

Now, however, when it has developed that the Turks and Germans have done little to increase the amount of broken lines of one-horse railway between Constantinople and the canal and to prepare for a great march through the burning sands of the Arabian Desert, where the advantage of transportation lies overwhelmingly with the defenders, the British can rest more easily. They can leave only a fraction of their forces in the neighborhood of the canal and throw the hardened New Zealanders, Australians, Indians and home troops for an invasion where they please. The point selected may be anywhere from Palestine to Saloniki.

At Saloniki 500,000 French and British and a few Serbians hold an immensely strong fifty-mile line of mountains and swamps in a great semicircle north of the city, and are opposed by probably 500,000 men in almost equally strong positions.

The condition approaches one of stalemate. In the No Man's Land between the forces, small detachments of infantry and cavalry scout, seize villages and fight small engagements.

In the air there is often great activity. Great fleets of allied aeroplanes bombard the German and Bulgarian camps. Zeppelins, Albatrosses and Folkers wing their way to Saloniki and throw their missiles at the warehouses, piers and ships of the allies, often with the result that Greek citizens are killed.

With the most elaborate intrenchments and underground shelters, constructed with all the knowledge gained on the western battle line, each side sways an enemy attack with equanimity. But neither moves. They are waiting, waiting, each anxious for the other to move first, and so expose his hand.

HAVE POLITICAL REASONS FOR HOLDING SALONIKI

The allies have political reasons for holding Saloniki. They fear that if it were given up, their prestige in the Near East would suffer immensely. Rumania would be influenced against them and King Constantine might throw Greece, even unwillingly, into the ranks of the central powers. (Continued on Eighth Page.)